

10/009157

JC10 Rec'd PCT/PTO

18 OCT 2001

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dragne, et al.:

Serial No.: Not assigned

Group Art Unit: Not assigned

: Examiner: Not assigned

#7  
6-4-02  
ORS  
PreA

Filed:

For: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR  
CONTROLLING A BLASTING NETWORK

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as  
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Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

On 18 OCT 01 Lea Murray  
Lea Murray

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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the specification as follows:

In the Claims:

Please replace claim 7 with the following:

A1

7. A system for controlling a blasting network which includes a control unit and a communication link for the network, the communication link being capable of being placed in a control mode and in an operational mode, and a monitoring device for monitoring the communication link for at least one previously designated unsafe message, wherein the communication link in its control mode prevents any detected unsafe message from being transmitted to the blasting network and in its operational mode permits any previously designated unsafe message to be transmitted to the blasting network, and wherein in both its control mode and its operational mode the communication link permits any message which has not been designated as unsafe to be transmitted via the communication link.